[XXXVIIth Year.] THE [No. 1813.]

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1781.

For the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

MR. CARROLL is pleased to assert, that "I opposed the repeal of the tender law, when the pretext for its passage no longer existed;" he *insinuates*, "that I have taken advantages of that law, and paid more monies than I received;" and that I attempted to provide for my own case by a clause in a bill sent to the senate, which they rejected;" and "that a renewal of cancelled loan-office bonds would not be relished by persons in my predicament; and he intimates some misconduct, or *speculation*, about the *convention* money, and alludes to some affidavits read in the house of delegates on this subject.

I admit that I voted in congress to recommend to the legislatures of the several states to make the continental bills of credit a legal tender in payment of debts; and I want not Mr. Carroll's admission that my object was honest and virtuous. The intention was to give credit to the money, to render it of universal use, and to force *tory* creditors to contribute their aid to the war. The senate always admitted, that the tender law was made "for good and salutary purposes," and urged a repeal or suspension, because it was discovered by experience not to have answered its original intention. Mr. Carroll ascribes my vote to make paper money a tender to an error in judgment, and an impetuosity of temper. I will accept no apology from him, it is his intolerable vanity only which can induce him to imagine his judgment superior to that of others. At the time of passing the tender law I esteemed the making the paper money current in payment for debts, as proper and necessary to maintain its credit. The very great and unexpected emissions, the arts of our open and secret enemies, the continuance and events of the war, and the practices of debtors and *creditors*, combined to the rapid and extensive depreciation. At October session 1778, on a petition from the father of Mr. Carroll for a repeal of the tender law, the house of delegates *unanimously* resolved, "That a repeal of the law, at that time, would be highly injurious to the cause of America, destructive to public credit, and the ruin of many individuals." I was not then a member. At July session 1779, the senate proposed to repeal the tender law, so far as it affected debts, due before the first of June 1776; and at various times they proposed to suspend its operation, as to old debts; but without making any provision for any case. It is a fact not to be denied, that the whig creditors, in general, received the bills of credit for their debts, and that the *tory* creditors, and the disaffected, evaded the receipt by every art. Scotch and British factors had paid the creditors of their principals (especially in St. Mary's and Charles counties) and afterwards secreted, or sent away, their books of accounts, to avoid payment. Many of our merchants, warm and zealous whigs, had received their debts from the farmers and planters, in the depreciated currency, and must have been entirely ruined, if not enabled to pay their Scotch and British creditors. A general repeal, or suspension, therefore, would have been attended with more inconvenience and injury to the people, than a continuance of the law. I therefore ever opposed a general repeal, or suspension. Mr. Carroll, and a few more in the senate and house of delegates, of great wealth, warmly urged a general repeal or suspension, and were pleased to be offended with those who differed in sentiment. They took no regard for any case but what affected themselves. If the legislature would prevent a payment of their old debts, they cared not what numbers might be ruined.

But I benefited myself by the tender law. Mr. Carroll has not ventured to assert this as a fact; but he implies it by asking the question. I will truly inform the public. The trouble I have taken was not to satisfy Mr. Carroll, but those whose good opinion I wish to preserve. I paid two debts to the loan-office, and not exceeding £. 600 to private creditors, when the depreciation was not very considerable. I received for lands sold, and debts due before 1776, above twice the sums paid. I have sunk by the tender law, and the depreciation, two good-settled and well improved plantations, worth £. 2500 specie, some thousands of acres of land, and a sum of money in debts. In a word, by the law I have sunk one third of all my property; a considerable sum I expended in the public service. I received the money when depreciated even thirty for one. If I had refused, what a clamour would have been raised? The records shew my conveyance of lands, for which I received from six-pence to ten pence per acre. I could not in justice to a numerous family take the whole burthen of depreciation on myself. I never could suspect that the public would make me repay the loan-office; such conduct would be too glaringly unjust. The legislature compelled me to receive their notes of credit in payment of my private debts as specie, and declared them payable also in discharge of the debts due to their loan-office. If attempted I shall have this consolation, that many others, and Mr. Carroll himself, will be in the same predicament, as he too paid off his bond to the loan-office.

But "in the draught of a bill sent to the senate, I attempted, by a clause, to provide for my own case." I again wish Mr. Carroll had been pointed. He certainly means some improper conduct, and the suspicion is confirmed, because the senate struck the clause out of the bill. I have read of certain ladies who delight in scandal, and "who can *nod* or *wink* a reputation down." Can any reader guess what Mr. Carroll means? Some "piece of ingenuity," I suppose, in which I used my influence, as a delegate, to promote my own private interest, but was detected by the senate! Mr. Carroll has only hinted at the transaction, because it would be painful for him to descend to the particulars, and his benevolence would be injured by the recital. It is only by his reference to a clause in a bill from whence I can conjecture his meaning. It being agreed by the house of delegates to call out of circulation the currencies emitted by congress, and our conventions, and to give in exchange one dollar of a new for forty of the old emissions, it was thought proper to make provision for contracts made since the emissions and in the currency of the state. Every man of common sense, and common honesty, must see that contracts made in continental or state currency, ought not to have been affected by the legislature's calling them out of circulation. A man in 1779 agreed to pay a sum of *current* money (say £. 10 per hundred for tobacco) on the first of January 1784, and the convention money, which was the state currency, was, by the terms of its emission, not to be called in, or sunk, before 1785. For reasons of state, or the public good, the assembly determined to annihilate the convention money after a short day, and to give *one* dollar of a new emission in exchange for *forty* dollars of the convention emission. Ought not the new dollar to represent forty old, ought the contract to be altered, or the debt changed from a depreciating currency, in which it was made, into gold and silver? It was universally agreed to make provision for *such* debts from one citizen to another, and to enable the creditor to pay one new dollar in discharge of forty old; but many of our traders owed such debts to non-residents. The clause proposed to enable such creditors to pay their debts into our loan office. This the senate objected to, but readily agreed, that the creditors of non-residents might be enabled to pay one new dollar for forty old, and so the law passed. If Mr. Carroll can point out any improper conduct, or that any thing was desired to promote my interest contrary to the principles of honour and justice, he is very welcome. But his insinuations are ungenerous, mean, and malicious.

Mr. Carroll speaks of a *speculation* as to our convention money, which was proved by affidavits produced and read in the house of delegates. If a man's reputation is to be damned by a hint, Mr. Carroll can claim the palm; and if dark surmises will be received as proof, no man can be his rival. In May 1780 a report was raised and industriously circulated through the state, that I had purchased up, with continental currency, very large sums of convention money. This slander first received its authority from a message of the senate to the house of delegates, of May 10, 1780, and gained almost universal credit. It was represented, that the convention money was to be made of the value of gold and silver, and that myself, and a few others, were to be enriched by heavy taxes on the people. The object was to raise a popular prejudice against me, and to draw off the attention of the people from the confiscation of British property. The design succeeded, and a very general clamour was raised, and it ended in a breach of our public faith and honour, and all the consequences which have since happened are justly imputable to the party who brought about that weak dishonest measure. The food of envy and malice is the misery of others, and some wretches would rather that the sun should cease to shine, and would live in perpetual darkness, rather than the man they hate, should receive any benefit from the light of heaven. I believe many would violate the public faith, to prevent my receiving any benefit by the preservation of the public credit. I cannot discover that any rule political or moral forbad the purchasing the convention money. I do declare I, nor no person connected with me or on my behalf ever purchased one shilling of convention money, and from the time the report was first raised to the time of calling it out of circulation, I never was possessed but of a few dollars by exchange. Surely if any sums had been bought up by me, or any one on my behalf, some one person could be found to prove it. I never thought there was any thing improper in purchasing convention money, and if I had done it, I could justify it against Mr. Carroll, and all his adherents. It was proved, by the affidavit Mr. Carroll alludes to, that a gentleman, with whom I am connected, lodged a sum of continental with the sheriff of Frederick county, to be exchanged for convention money. This was the substance of the affidavit, but not one word of a purchase of convention money, and a proposal to *exchange* is called by Mr. Carroll a *speculation*.

Mr. Carroll mentions, "that in October 1778 he found several gentlemen of the assembly warm in their complaints against me, not only about the purchase of wheat and flour, but upon some *other points*, in which they conceived this state had been materially wronged." I cannot conjecture those *other points* in which I had injured the public, and I presume Mr. Carroll forbore "to bring them back to the public memory, because it would be painful for him to descend to particulars." A benevolent man will never censure his neighbour, or give credit to the tales of envy or malevolence, or repeat their slanders. It is well known that at that time I urged my countrymen to accede to the confederacy, and it is equally notorious that my advice was unpopular. The ostensible objection made against me was my opinion in favour of the confederacy. I published my sentiments, which *then* were correspondent to the opinion of Mr. Carroll. If Mr. Carroll should think proper to descend to the particulars of the *other points*, he alludes to, in which I have injured the public, I engage to give a full and satisfactory answer.

Mr. Carroll has attempted to justify his conduct in relation to the confiscation of British property, and the law to disqualify merchants from a seat in congress. It is not my business to recriminate, or to censure Mr. Carroll's conduct, but to justify my own. I esteem his public conduct very exceptionable in many particulars, but I am inclined to think the public are wholly indifferent about us both, and will not take the trouble to examine into the conduct of either.

Mr. Carroll has asserted that he published his address to me "from a desire to vindicate his character from the false, bad, and illiberal motives which I had attributed to his public conduct." This assertion is void of truth as to my conduct to Mr. Carroll, but expressly applicable to his towards me. He was the aggressor. We differed in sentiment as to a test to discriminate whigs from tories. He was against *any* test, I was against a *general* one. He was ever the friend to the absentees. He proposed the instructions, to destroy my reputation, and he opposed the confiscation of British property, upon principles incompatible with our independence, and imputed my maintaining the legality and policy of the measure to base and interested motives. The expressions of scorn and contempt interspersed through his address I despise. I hold him in equal contempt, and can return him sneer for sneer. His avaricious wealth and imaginary greatness command no respect from me. Whether he has violated his friendship I alone must judge, satisfied of his perfidy I shall never desire any connection with him. I wish not any personal altercation, or divisions, especially at this time, as it can only gratify the common enemy. Mr. Carroll is pleased to deny his declaration, "that he did not intend, or aim the instructions at me." No gentleman ever called on Mr. Carroll, at my request. Mr. Carroll's observation, "that the instructions were *general*, and that I was not *named*, but if the cap fitted me, that I might wear it," is only remarkable for conveying no information, and the vulgarity of the expression. I was certainly informed that Mr. Carroll had made the declaration I mentioned, by a gentleman then a member of the council, and Mr. Carroll's and my particular friend; and by a lady, whose veracity neither Mr. Carroll or I can question.

I shall not give the public any further trouble. I have been arraigned before them for high crimes and misdemeanors, and I have made my defence, which I hope my friends will have no reason to blush at, and my enemies no occasion of triumph.

SAMUEL CHASE.

Annapolis, October 8, 1781.

CHATHAM, *September* 26.

The troops of the enemy mentioned in our last to have embarked, are all disembarked upon Staten-Island, from which circumstance it is imagined, a descent into this state is intended, therefore it behoves every man, capable of bearing arms, to be in perfect readiness to oppose them, and prevent their committing the like depredations in our territory that they lately did in a sister state.

By intelligence from New-York we learn, that of 18 sail of the line that went to the southward, only 13 are returned to the Hook, 5 of which are mere wrecks, and cannot be repaired, but with the greatest difficulty, without going into dock.

By a sailor that was on board admiral Drake's ship, and left the enemy since their arrival at the Hook, we learn, that the battle between the two fleets was fought on the 14th inst. the British consisting of 18 ships of the line, and the French of 25, though only 23 engaged; that the British lost the Terrible and Vengeance, both seventy-fours, one sunk and the other burnt; the Fortunate, a 44, was taken in the bay; the Princessa, of 70 guns, lost all her masts, and had 90 men killed, and 50 that lost either their legs or arms, and was obliged to throw all her guns overboard two days after the action, as she made nine feet water in her hold in one hour. Probably this propitious event so affected the intellects of Sir Harry, was the occasion of his apologizing for the burning of New-London, left the rude Americans, in conjunction with their allies, should beat up his own quarters, after the reduction of his noble friend, and make him responsible for all the burnings his miscreants may or have perpetrated.

PHILADELPHIA, *Sept.* 29.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Morris-town, to his friend in this city, dated September 26.

"You will doubtless be desirous of knowing what troops are now encamped on Staten-Island. I can, from pretty good authority, inform you, that they are the 1st and 2d regiments of British grenadiers; the 22d, 42d, 54th, and 57th British regiments; two regiments of Hessian grenadiers; two battalions of Hessians, and 1000 Yagers, landed last Friday week, and have four field pieces, but all their baggage on board.

"I also learn, that two ships of the line have been condemned, as unfit for service, since their arrival at New-York. A sailor that belonged to the Princessa (admiral Drake's ship) declares, that they lost two ships, the Terrible and Vengeance, one sunk the other burnt; that the Princessa lost all her masts, and have all her guns overboard to save her from sinking, she making 9 feet water in one hour, and had 90 men killed and 50 wounded in the action."

Extract of a letter from count de Grasse to the honourable the chevalier de la Luzerne, minister plenipotentiary of France, dated Cape Henry, Sept. 13, 1781.

"Nothing gave me greater pleasure than the approach of the armies under general Washington and count de Rochambeau. In order to hasten their arrival I had selected out seven vessels that drew the least water to transport them from the mouth of Elk down Chesapeake bay. But the moment they were ready to sail to execute this service, I was myself obliged to make preparations for repelling the enemy's fleet, which appeared off the entrance of the bay. I have fought them, and their van has been roughly handled. I returned to the bay on the 10th. In the mean time count de Barras had arrived, and sent up the transports he had with him to bring down the troops, which induced me not to send up the seven vessels above mentioned; and I had only to add to those sent by count de Barras as many frigates as I could. My putting to sea facilitated the entrance of M. de Barras, and our junction has added much to our strength. I fell in with two of the enemy's frigates, the Iris and the Richmond, of 32 guns each. They had been sent by the English admiral to cut away the buoys of our anchors. They have paid dear for them."

Admiral Digby is most assuredly arrived off the Hook, with one ship of 90 guns, and two of 74. The reports (from them) say he left England with six ships of the line, six frigates and 100 transports for America; but some advices the admiral received at sea, made it necessary for him to come on with three ships, leaving the transports under cover of three ships of the line and six frigates.

Advices are received from New-York, which say, that the enemy have dismantled three forts on the East river, and sent the heavy cannon on board their shipping. Near 4000 troops (with a large number of waggons, flat-bottomed boats, &c. &c.) are encamped on Staten-Island; but it is difficult for us to ascertain what their designs are.

Extract of a letter from New-London, dated Sept. 12.

"Arnold had long promised to visit New London and the neighbouring towns on the sea shore, and the enemy having frequently appeared in sight of the harbour, the alarm guns fired on the present occasion were considered by the country around as the salutes of prizes or other vessels belonging to the port. He however arrived the 6th inst. about 5 o'clock, and at 7 o'clock landed about 2500 men, half on each side of the river. At 8 o'clock the militia mustered in parties of 8 or 10, and annoyed the enemy until about 100 of them came up and disputed their way to fort Trumbull; their great superiority obliged our people to yield to them the possession of the fort. Colonel Ledyard, with about 76 other brave fellows, retreated to the fort on Groton side, which they determined resolutely to defend. The next assault was upon this fort, where they were repulsed several times by a bravery unequalled, for about three hours. A flag was then sent, demanding a surrender of the fort, accompanied by a threat of giving no quarters in case of refusal. The commandant consulted with his brave garrison, who refused to submit. The action was then renewed, when the flag staff was unfortunately shot away; notwithstanding which the defence was gallantly continued until a out 5 or 600 of the enemy, having forced the pickets, had entered through the breach. At this time there were but four of the garrison killed, and it was thought prudent to submit to preserve the lives of the remainder. The officer who at this time commanded the assailants (major Montgomery being killed) enquired who commanded the garrison; colonel Ledyard informed him that he had had that honour, but was unfortunate in being obliged to surrender it, at the same time delivered up to him his sword, and asked for quarter for himself and people; to which the infamous villain replied, "yes, ye rascals, I'll give you quarters." and then plunged the sword into his body. The inhuman banditti, taking this as a signal, drove their bayonets up to the muzzles of their pieces into the breasts of all that were taken, except one or two who made their escape.

"After massacreing the living they insulted the dead, by actions too horrid to mention; the bodies were arranged along side of each other for the purpose, and, to shew contempt to colonel Ledyard, they singled out a negro to place next to him.

"Never was there more distress in any place than there is here at present; there are 50 widows within 8 miles of Groton fort.

"Before their departure, which was in the evening of the same day they landed, they burnt all the shipping that could not get up Norwich river, among which were several rich prizes lately arrived, with their cargoes, some of which were stored and the rest on board the vessels; about 40 sail, all on fire, were floating up and down the stream. The prize brig Hope, laden with provisions, happily escaped the general conflagration, although the fire from the shore several times caught the awning which covered her quarter deck, and went out; several vessels in full blaze passed within two and three feet of her; ten lay within forty yards, and consumed to the water's edge, but Providence directed she should escape, and a very fortunate one it was, as there was no other supply of provisions in town. The inhabitants requested that no advantage would be taken of the scarcity by enhancing the price, and they have already been supplied at the rates they were sold before this unhappy affair, which gives general satisfaction. Many who, the day before, were worth from ten to thirty thousand pounds lawful money, have not now a second change of linen."

ANNAPOLIS, *October* 11.

The following gentlemen are elected members of the house of delegates in the ensuing general assembly, viz.

For Saint Mary's county; Uriah Forrest, John Allen Thomas, Edmund Plowden, and James Mills, Esquires.

Calvert; William Fitzhugh, Samuel Chew, Michael Taney, and William Allein, Esquires.

Charles; Gerard Blackiston Causin, John Dent, Daniel Jeniter, and Michael Jenifer Stone, Esquires.

Baltimore; Thomas Cockey Deye, Charles Ridgely, Samuel Worthington, and John Beale Howard, Esquires.

Prince-George's; Josias Beall, Walter Bowie, George Frazier Hawkins, and Thomas Duckett, Esquires.

Frederick; John Hanson, Thomas Beatty, Samuel Duvall, and David Schriver, Esquires.

Harford; John Taylor, Benjamin Bradford Norris, William Smithson, and John Love, Esquires.

Montgomery; Edward Burgess, Charles Greenbury Griffith, William Bayly, and Lawrence O'Neill, Esquires.

Washington; John Stull, John Barnes, Thomas Sprigg, and James Chapline, Esquires.

Baltimore-town; David M'Mechen, and Henry Wilson, Esquires.

Kent county; John Cadwalader, William Stevenson, James Lloyd, and Duke Tilden, Esquires.

Talbot; John Gibson, James Hindman, William Goldsborough, and William Maynadier, Esquires.

Queen Anne's; Turbutt Wright, James Kent, Clement Sewell, and John Seney, Esquires.

Bladensburg.

"On Friday October 5, 1781, departed this life, in the 26th year of her age, after a short but painful illness, Mrs. Margaretta Augustina Sydebotham, a lady in whom was united almost every natural and acquired accomplishment; her purity of life and manners could be only equalled by her fortitude, patience, and resignation, in the most awful of all moments."

Anne-Arundel county, October 10, 1781.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of Vachel Sewell, late of this county, deceased, are requested to make immediate payment to the subscribers; and likewise all persons indebted to the estate of Deborah Sewell, of the county aforesaid, deceased, are requested to make immediate payment as above directed, and all those who have just claims against either of the above named estates, are desired immediately to make them known legally authenticated to us, that they may be paid off.

To be sold at the dwelling house of Vachel Johnson, in Middle-neck hundred, near the creek called Oyster creek, at public vendue, on saturday the 20th of this present month October, two negroes, a woman and her son; both have had the small pox, the woman is about two or three and twenty years of age understands carding and spinning either cotton or wool exceeding well and an work, either in the house or the field; the boy 5 or 6 years old, and very likely. Some household furniture, consisting of beds, tables, &c. also some very valuable cows with calf, and other dry cattle; one horse, and some very good hogs, &c. The sale will begin on the above mentioned day, if fair, if not the Monday following, and continue till all is sold. The terms will be agreed on at the day of sale. w3

VACHEL JOHNSON,
JACOB LUSBY, } administrators.

WHOEVER is disposed to employ a tutor for a genteel private family, or for a compact neighbourhood, under liberal patronage, may hear of one at the printing-office in Annapolis.

Talbot county, Sept. 26, 1781.

WANTED, as an overlooker this fall, a person who will take charge of several plantations, all of which lay contiguous to each other. Any person who can be well recommended will receive a handsome salary for his trouble.

100. EDWARD LLOYD.

Anne-Arundel county, September 24, 1781.

RAN away from the subscriber the 8th instant, a negro lad named JACOB, of a yellow complexion, about 18 years of age, about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high; had on a country cotton shirt, and a woollen jacket and breeches much worn. Whoever will bring the said negro to the subscriber, living near the head of south river in the aforesaid county, or secure him in any manner so that he can be had again, shall receive six dollars (specie) reward.

3w WILLIAM HALL, 3d.

July 31, 1781.

NOTICE is hereby given, that application is intended to be made to the next general assembly of Maryland, by a number of the freemen of Cæcil county, to have an act passed for a special election, in order to take the sense of the county where the court of justice ought to be fixt, and that the election be held two days where the court-house now stands, two days at the Head of Elk, and two days at Charles-town, and that proper judges be appointed to hold the election. w8

THERE is at the plantation of Tyler Baldwyn, about 3 miles from Annapolis, taken up as a stray, a small mare about 12 and a half or 13 hands high, a small star on her forehead, short switch tail, long mane, and no brand, shod before, trots and gallops. The owner may have her again on proving property and paying charges. 3w3

A FEW copies of the LAWS of MARYLAND, passed last session of assembly, may be had at the Printing-office.

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by FREDERICK and SAMUEL GREEN, at the Post-Office, Charles-Street.